COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION—1121

Monday *the* $\frac{\textit{4th February 1946}}{\textit{22nd Makaram 1121}}$

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at half past Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President (Sir G. T. Boag, K. C. I. E., C. S. I.) in the Chair.

All the members excepting Mrs. Dhakshayani Velayudhan, Messrs. T. K. Nayar, P. Sankara Menon, P. V. Sebastian and the Chief Engineer, were present.

Swearing in

Mr. K. S. Raghavan, officiating Secretary to Government was duly sworn in.

Opening Statement by the President

Mr. President.—I have a message from His Highness the Maharaja.

"Members of the Legislative Council,

I welcome the first meeting of the legislature since my accession with genuine pleasure. The Council representing the people of my State plays an important role in the constitution of the State. I shall always follow its proceedings with the deepest interest and give to its recommendations the most deserving consideration befitting its status."

(Read all members standing)

We meet this morning, Hon'ble Members, with a deep sense of grief at the death of His late Highness. I thought I should be interpreting the wishes of all Hon'ble Members in arranging that the only business to be taken up today will be a motion of condolence. As soon as that discussion is finished, the House will be adjourned until tomorrow morning. I now call upon the Hon'ble Minister to move.

Condolence Motion on the demise of His Highness Sree Ravi Varma, the Maharaja of Cochin

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* Mr. President Sir,

It is with feelings of deep sorrow that I rise to perform the melancholy duty of moving the following motion on the sad demise of His Highness Sree Ravi Varma, the late Maharaja of Cochin.

"This Council desires to express, with due respect its deep sense of sorrow at the irreparable loss sustained by the State by the lamented demise of His Highness Sree Ravi Varma, the late Maharaja of Cochin, and its sincere sympathy with His Highness the Maharaja and other members of the Ruling Family and His late Highness' Consort and children, in their sad bereavement."

It is unnecessary for me to make a long speech to commend this motion for the unanimous acceptance of this House. Only two months have elapsed since we stood united to express in one voice our loyal felicitations on His Highness' attaining His 80th birthday. And the spontaneous expressions of joy from every section of this House on that unique occasion, bear testimony to His Highness' high character and benevolent rule. The admiration and loyalty of the public of Cochin to the person of His Highness then exhibited itself in the spectacular manner in which they celebrated the occasion and in the presentation of a public address as a humble token of their sincere feelings of attachment to His Highness. Little did we then dream that God in His omnicience had decided to crown His good devotee with a repose so unexpected and so sudden, leaving us with our limited vision, in deep lamentation.

His Highness ascended the Gadi, as you are all aware of, at a time when the whole world was in the final grim grip of a devastating world war. Cochin along with other countries had to face serious situations arising therefrom. His Highness with His deep abiding faith in God carried on His arduous duties of administration with extreme calmness and with anxious care for the welfare of all His Highness' subjects, whether rich or poor. Though His Highness remained on the Gadi only for a short period, His Highness' rule was marked by goodness and sincerity

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